



# Shellstockers' Review

*Newsletter of the North Carolina Shellfish Growers Association*  
**March 2013**

Jay Styron- President  
Mark Hooper- Vice President  
Dana Schmidt- Treasurer  
Richard Farris- Secretary  
PO Box 1501 Morehead City, NC 28557

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## **NC Shellfish Growers Association**

### **Meeting Invite:**

Greetings NCSGA members and interested people. Please excuse this abbreviated newsletter. The main goal of this announcement is to invite you to the next NCSGA meeting, to be held at the North Carolina Coastal Federation Headquarters, 3609 Highway 24 (Ocean), Newport, NC 28570 on March 25, 2013 at 6pm. Our last meeting was held at the NC Aquaculture Development Conference, Shellfish Workshop, in New Bern, NC on February 9, 2013. During that meeting, a number of issues and concerns were discussed, all of which need to be considered during the next Shellfish FMP revision. According to Craig Hardy, Resource Enhancement Section Chief with the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the oyster and hard clam FMP reviews will begin on July 1, 2013, during which time plan development teams will be formed if sufficient plan uses exist. It was recommended that a document from the NCSGA be submitted by June 1, 2013

summarizing the issues needing attention. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

In addition to addressing needed changes to the oyster and hard clam FMP, a number of issues regarding the NCSGA organization itself were discussed. These included how to best address our audience, changes in the amount of dues paid, marketing strategies for cultured product, and the future of the association. All of these topics will be discussed in greater detail at the meeting.

### **SGA News in Brief**

SGA officers were selected for 2013 at the NC Aquaculture Conference in February. The officers include: President: Jay Styron, Vice President: Mark Hooper, Treasurer: Dana Schmidt, and Secretary: Richard Farris. SGA dues are still \$15/ year, pending changes at the next meeting.

**Presentations from the 2013 NC  
Aquaculture Development Conference:**

Several presentations on shellfish aquaculture were given at the 2013 NC Aquaculture Development Conference held in New Bern, NC this year. Troy Alphin, UNC-Wilmington, gave an update on the development of a GIS-Siting tool for location areas for potential shellfish aquaculture. Brian Conrad, NC Division of Marine Fisheries gave us an overview of the leasing process in NC. Marc Turano, NC Sea Grant, presented preliminary economics on starting up a shellfish culture operation. All of the presentations are now available on the NC Aquaculture Development Conference website:  
[www.ncaquaculture.org](http://www.ncaquaculture.org).

**Development of a Domesticated North  
Carolina Oyster:**

Dr. Ami Wilbur, the director of the UNCW Shellfish Hatchery and Associate Professor, recently received funding from the NC Blue Crab and Shellfish Research Program, administered by NC Sea Grant, to begin the development of domesticated NC oyster lines. Broodstock oysters were gathered from at least 4 areas of NC and conditioned at the research hatchery. Oysters were spawned, larvae were set, and spat were reared to a size for lease planting. Five NC oyster growers received seed for growout on their lease representing differences in culture environment. All seed is currently being monitored for growth and survival on a quarterly basis. In addition, 2 oyster lines from the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences Aquaculture and Genetics Breeding Technology Center are also being included in the growout evaluation. The project is the first step in developing domesticated NC oyster lines. We hope to hear an update about this project later in 2013.

**Classifieds** (free to members)

***Millpoint Aquaculture,  
Sea Level, NC***

***Oyster and Clam Seed Available  
Clam Seed Available in Various Sizes  
Diploid and Triploid Oyster Spat of  
Various Sizes***

***Call Jimmy Morris 252-345-7452 for  
Prices and Availability***

### **NCSGA Membership**

The NCSGA is currently updating its membership list and the members' preferred contact information. We are also offering an optional deliver method for the newsletter, paper or electronic. (Receiving your newsletter by email saves the SGA money for postage, ink and paper, which helps to keep your annual dues to a minimum; however, we will gladly send it by postal mail.) *If you would still like to continue receiving the NCSGA Newsletter, please complete and detach the form below, and mail it along with your \$15 annual dues (if not already paid for 2012) to the new NCSGA mailing address: PO Box 1501 Morehead City, NC 28557.*

### ***North Carolina Shellfish Growers Association***

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Richard Farris- Secretary

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Board of Directors

Jay Styron

Bob Cummings

Bradley Lawrence

Tom Mattison

Kevin Lawrence

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